EXPLOREKENT.ORG

WALKING AND CYCLING MAP

EXPLORE DARTFORD

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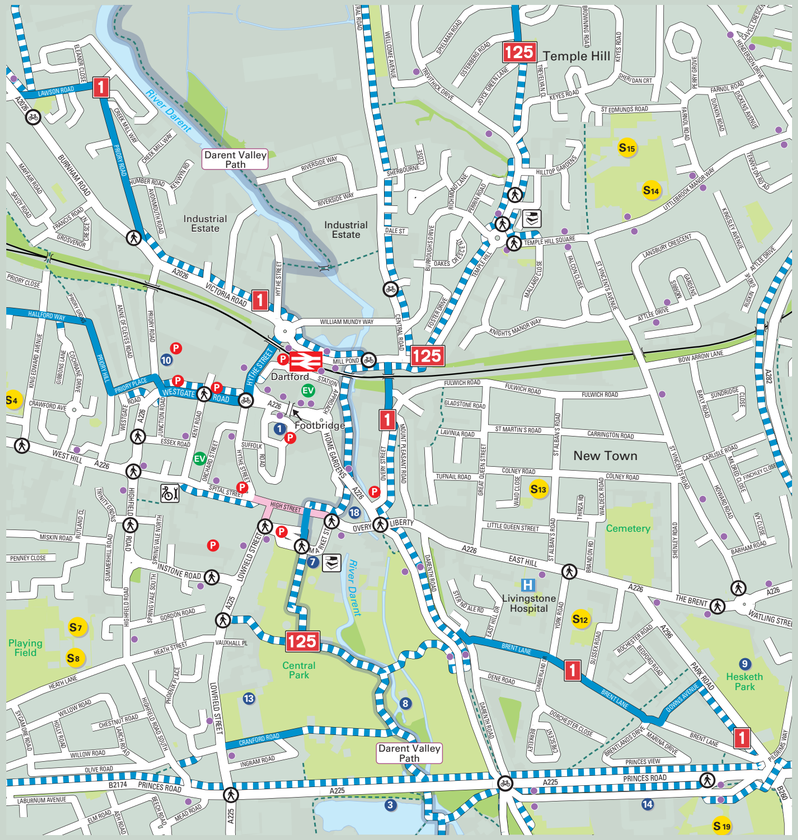
DARTFORD

Located on the border of Kent, London and Essex, Dartford is one of the most exciting and dynamic towns in the county.

Shopaholics will find plenty to occupy themselves with in Dartford which lies within easy reach of Bluewater Shopping Centre, home to major brands and a fantastic food and drink offer. In Dartford itself you can find many local gems, including regular markets on Thursdays and Saturdays and Farmers Markets on the third Friday of every month.

The Orchard Theatre, located in the town centre, is a cultural hub providing audiences with a large range of drama, dance, music and entertainment. The Mick Jagger Centre on Shepherd's Lane is also an excellent facility for community arts. Art and history lovers will enjoy a trip to Dartford Library, which is also home to Dartford Borough Museum and the Sir Peter Blake Gallery, an exhibition space for emerging and established artists.

Dartford town lies at the point where the River Darent joins the Thames. From here you can follow the Darent Valley Path south to the river's source in the Greensand Hills, offering excellent walking opportunities and beautiful views. There are plentiful green spaces around the town, including Central Park, a lovely formal park in the town centre with a children's play area and flower gardens. Darenth Country Park and Beacon Wood Country Park offer an escape to nature and beautiful woodland walks.



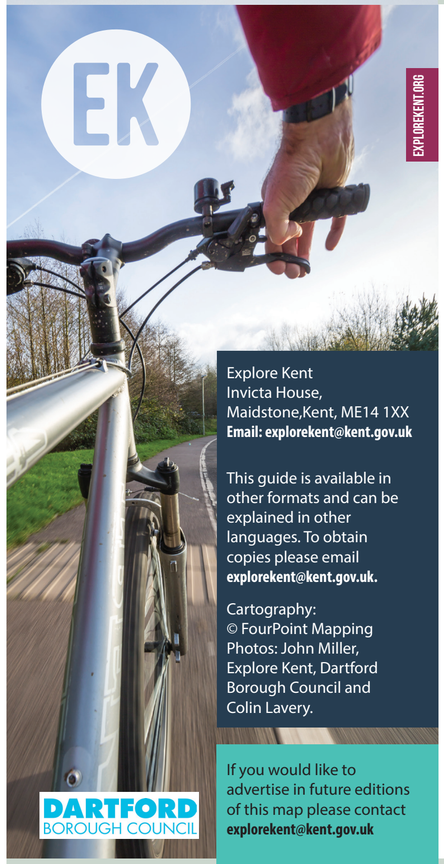
- Signed on-road cycle route
- Surfaced – Traffic-free, Bridleways, Restricted Byways and Byways Open to All Traffic
- Pedestrianised roads
- Footpath
- Promoted walking route *

* For more information visit **explorekent.org**

- School, Named and numbered
- Place of interest, Named and numbered
- Bus stop
- Hospital
- Railway with station
- Toucan crossing
- Pelican / Puffin crossing
- Bike shop
- Library
- Electric vehicle charging point
- National Cycle Network route number
- Cycle parking

PLACES OF INTEREST

1. The Orchard Theatre
2. Central Park Gardens
3. Brooklands Lake
4. Darenth Country Park
5. Beacon Wood Country Park
6. Bluewater Shopping Centre
7. Dartford Borough Museum / Dartford Library
8. Dartford Open Air Theatre
9. Hesketh Park
10. The Manor Gatehouse
11. Stone Recreation Ground
12. The Enchanted Woodland
13. Fairfield Leisure Centre
14. Princes Park
15. Stone Lodge Bowls and Social Club
16. Swanscombe Heritage Park
17. The Bridge Sculpture Trail
18. Holy Trinity Church
19. Dartford Heath
20. Crossing Offices



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Cartography:
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Photos: John Miller, Explore Kent, Dartford Borough Council and Colin Lavery.

DARTFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

If you would like to advertise in future editions of this map please contact **explorekent@kent.gov.uk**

WALKING ROUTES

DARENT VALLEY PATH

This 19-mile waymarked path is one of Kent's greatest hidden treasures, with fine walking opportunities for all the family. It meanders from the banks of the busy River Thames at Dartford through the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, to the Greensand Hills above Sevenoaks. Walks range from gentle strolls between historic inns, to bracing climbs to the top of the Downs with panoramic views across the valley. Not all these paths are wheelchair/pushchair accessible and discretion is advised.

BEACON WOOD WALK

A gently rolling 1.25-mile walk, with a shorter option of 0.6 miles. The paths are well-compacted with occasional stones, making it ideal for young families to explore. Enjoy a stroll through scenic woodland with fantastic views of the wildlife pond and across the surrounding countryside.

To find detailed guides for these routes visit ExploreKent.org

CYCLE ROUTES

NATIONAL CYCLE ROUTE 1

Route 1 is an adventurous National Cycle Route connecting Dover in South Kent to the Shetland Islands northeast of Scotland. From Dartford you can follow the route east through Gravesend, where you can either continue onwards to the historic cathedral city of Canterbury and the coastal towns of Deal and Dover, or you can pick up Route 177 and visit Cyclopark, a fantastic cycling facility. Alternatively, follow Route 1 west from Dartford to head into London.

NATIONAL CYCLE ROUTE 125

Route 125 is a 3.6-mile route connecting Brooklands Lake to the bank of the River Thames via Dartford town centre and Central Park. This attractive path is traffic-free and well-surfaced making it ideal for walkers and cyclists of all abilities.

Kent connected

Download the Kent Connected mobile app or go to kentconnected.org to help plan your journey. View local cycling and walking routes, bus and train times and all other information on travelling in Kent.

GETTING AROUND

Dartford is less than an hour by train from multiple London mainline stations and only 15 minutes from Gravesend, where you can hop on a high-speed train to London St Pancras or Ashford International. Dartford is also well-connected to the Medway towns.

Frequent local services to nearby towns and Bluewater are run by Arriva Bus Services and Fastrack buses provide fast and frequent services at 10-minute intervals between Dartford Town Centre, Bluewater, Darent Valley Hospital, Ebbsfleet Station and Gravesend Town Centre.

Ask at the Crossing Offices for a pick-up vehicle to transport you and your cycle across the Dartford Crossing. This service is free. You cannot cycle over the bridge or through the tunnel.

With two National Cycle Routes passing through the centre of Dartford, there is no better way to travel around the town. There are walking and cycling waymarkers around the town centre to help you find your way around. Take a look at the map to see how far you could cycle in only 15 minutes.

Walking and cycling aren't just rewarding and fun ways to get around; leaving the car at home for some trips will save you money and reduce emissions. It also allows you to be active as part of your daily routine, helping you to stay fit and healthy.

THINGS TO DO

The Manor Gatehouse sits on a site chosen by Henry VIII and was once the home of Anne of Cleves. This historic building is now a popular wedding venue and visitors can enjoy the lovely gardens.

Dartford Borough Museum has been collecting fascinating objects relating to the history of Dartford for over 100 years.

The Bridge Sculpture Trail is a collection of sculptures made from reclaimed and recycled materials which can be found around the Bridge development.

Dartford Health Walks led by accredited Health Walk Leaders are available weekly at multiple locations and times. Find out more at www.dartford.gov.uk

To find out what's on in Dartford,
visit www.dartford.gov.uk/events

Explore Kent walking and cycling routes now available to download and follow on the Kent Connected app.

Visit kentconnected.org/our-app to download the app for free. Available on Apple and Android.

Plan your journey.
Be inspired.

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KEY

- District boundary
- * For more information vistit **explorekent.org**
- School Named and numbered
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In the town centre area cycle parking is only shown on inset map overleaf

CYCLE TO SCHOOL

- S1 Wentworth Primary School
- S2 West Hill Primary Academy
- S3 Holy Trinity C of E Primary School
- S4 Our Lady's R C Primary School
- S5 Dartford Grammar School
- S6 Dartford Grammar School for Girls
- S7 Westgate Primary School
- S8 Dartford Technology College
- S9 North Kent College
- S10 Wilmington Grammar School for Girls
- S11 Oakfield Community Primary School
- S12 York Road Junior Academy
- S13 St Alban's Road Infant School
- S14 St Anselm's R C Primary School
- S15 Temple Hill Primary Academy
- S16 The Leigh UTC
- S17 The Gateway Primary School
- S18 The Brent County Primary School
- S19 The Leigh Academy
- S20 Fleetdown Primary School
- S21 Stone St Marys C of E Primary School
- S22 Knockhall Academy / Knockhall Nursery
- S23 The Craylands School
- S24 The Ebbsfleet Academy
- S25 Manor Community Primary School
- S26 Cherry Orchard Primary Academy
- S27 Bean Primary School
- S28 Darenth Community Primary School

Kilometres 0 0.5 1
Miles 0 0.5

15 minutes walking will take you this far

15 minutes cycling will take you this far

Dartford
Swanscombe
Hawley
Hextable
Bean
Southfleet
River Thames
Dartford Tunnel
Queen Elizabeth II Bridge
Dartford Marshes
Crayford Marshes
Swanscombe Marshes
Broadness Salt Marshes
Botany Marshes
Industrial Estate
Business Park
Trading Estate
Europa Centre
Playing Field
Cemetery
Fire Station
Police Station
Leisure Centre
Works
Stone Crossing
Greenhithe
Knockhall
Bowmans
Brickhill Wood
Dartford Golf Club
Brooklands
Wilmington
Oakfield Park
Darenth Country Park
Darenth Wood
Beacon Wood Country Park
Lords Wood
Ladies Wood
Green Street Green
Betsham
Hook Green
Bluewater Shopping Centre
Swanscombe Heritage Park
Stone Recreation Ground
Joyce Green Cemetery
Littlebrook Nature Park
Brooklands Lake
Darent Valley Path
Saxon Shore Way
River Cray
River Darent
Stonebridge Pond
Dartford Loop
To Erith
To Gravesend
To Sevenoaks
City to Sea
The Bridge
Temple Hill
New Town
Darenth Valley
Fleet Downs
Darent Valley Hospital
The Little Brook Hospital
Livingstone Hospital
Central Park
Hesketh Park
King George's Field
Clement Street
Ebbsfleet International
Darent Valley Path
Swanscombe
Finn Station
The Swanscombe Centre
Horns Cross
Stone
Bean
Betsham
Southfleet
Darenth Valley
Darenth Country Park
Beacon Wood
Bluewater
Crayford
Dartford
Swanscombe
Gravesend
Sevenoaks